

Amendments to the Specification:

On page 5, beginning with line 1, and on page 6, beginning with line 2, please rewrite the paragraphs as follow:

Referring to Figs. 3 and 4, each support structure 6 [include] includes base members 14 and 16 and vertical member 18 joined at their one ends with pivots 20 so that the support structure may be collapsed into a compact configuration, as best shown in Fig. 5. It should be understood that the pivots 20 provide the means for collapsing the support structures 6 into a compact configuration. The pivots 20 may be of the ratcheting type of standard construction that selectively locks as the members 14, 16 and 18 are expanded so that the structure holds its deployed position. A brace 22 pivotably connected to the base members 16 and removably secured to the vertical member 18 may be used to provide further rigidity to the structure in the deployed position. Similarly, a brace 24 pivotably connected to the base member 14 and removably secured to the vertical member 18 may also be provided. A pin 26 is used to removably secure the brace 22 to the vertical member 18 through a hole 28 in the vertical member 18. Similarly, a pin 30 is removably secured in a hole 28 in the vertical member 18. Straps 32 and 34, one end of each is respectively secured to the brace members 22 and 24, are respectively secured to the pins 26 and 30 to prevent loss of the pins when the support structure 6 is

Serial No. 10/677,740
Amdt. dated June 2, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 21, 2005

- 3 -

folded and stowed away. The members 14, 16 and 18 are preferably lightweight tubular aluminum, but other materials and shapes may be used. The upper end of each vertical member 18 includes a clip 36 for hooking into a corresponding reinforced opening 38 in the receptacle 4 located at each upper corner of the truncated pyramid.

Since [[a]] each support structure 6 is not connected to any of the other support structures ~~structure~~, there [[are]] is less hardware required, thereby making the support structures in the aggregate relatively lightweight.